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TO: Ambulance Service Providers
Ambulance Service Medical Directors
EMS Training Centers
First Responder Organizations
EMS Coordinators
EMS Advisory Board
Emergency Physicians Advisory Committee

FROM: Bureau of EMS and Injury Prevention
Wisconsin Emergency Medical Services Systems Section

RE: Miscellaneous Updates



NEW YEAR GREETINGS



The Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention would like to wish all a happy holiday season. We have had the opportunity to speak to many of you over the year – via telephone, e-mail, and in person. Your continued dedication and commitment to EMS does not go unnoticed.

As we reflect over the past year there are numerous notable occurrences to be remembered. There is the requirement for Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) education, drafting the first responder administrative rules, and a visit from the Surgeon General of the United States. Other milestones include development of an electronic licensing renewal process, an online medical director's course, the EMT-Basic IV Technician refresher course and pediatric module, and approval of both pediatric BLS and ALS protocols. Last but not least, the State EMS Medical Director, Dr. Rick Barney, retired after 5 years of service.

Next year will also bring many changes and opportunities - the licensing renewal process; first responder hearings and administrative rule implementation; trauma system implementation, curriculum review, instructor evaluation, funding assistance program legislation, disaster and terrorism EMS-related activities, and scope of practice issues.



We would especially like to thank the membership of our many advisory committees for their volunteerism and dedication to the advancement of emergency medical services and injury prevention in Wisconsin.

EMSS DATABASE

Emergency Medical Services System (EMSS) is a web-based application used by the Division of Public Health, Bureau of EMS and Injury Prevention staff and their business partners to maintain emergency medical services information.

The EMSS application is a web-based repository for the operational plans of ambulance service and first responder providers. EMSS features patient care protocols, rosters, associates, affiliates, fleet vehicle details, and other general information about the ambulance service provider and licensed emergency medical technicians. EMSS has been developed to reduce the cost and amount of time and paperwork required to maintain an operational plan, issue a license, or, in the case of a training center, create a class.

EMSS is a secure application that requires a user ID and password to gain access. Ambulance service directors and medical directors, as well as training center supervisors and instructors, are able to access and update their own information on-line. To create a user account, you must first complete "self-registration" which is done by going to <https://on.wisconsin.gov> and carefully following all the instructions for creating an account.

All services are encouraged to become registered users on the new Internet database and licensing system to simplify the upcoming renewal process. You will be able to perform nearly all of the renewal process on line. Additional registration information can be found at: http://www.dhfs.state.wi.us/DPH_EMSIP/EMS/emss/index.htm

Help desk information is available at that site or you can call your program coordinator at the EMS System and Licensing Section (608 266-1568) for further assistance.

TRAUMA CARE SYSTEM UPDATE

The State Trauma Advisory Council (STAC) continues to meet on a monthly basis. The newest member of STAC is Dr. Aimen Shaaban, a pediatric trauma surgeon at University of Wisconsin-Madison Children's Hospital. For the current year, the primary focus for the regional trauma advisory councils and STAC is the completion of the EMS needs assessment and to develop regional triage and transport guidelines and/or protocols.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL NAMED LEVEL II TRAUMA FACILITY

Congratulations are extended to St. Joseph's Hospital in Marshfield for obtaining their American College of Surgeons (ACS) verification as a Level II trauma facility. According to the ACS definition, a Level II hospital is able to provide the initial definitive trauma care regardless of the severity of injury but does not have trauma research as a primary objective.



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Enclosed in this mailing you will find an “EMS Needs Assessment” document along with instructions for completion. All ambulance service providers and certified first responder units are encouraged to review, complete and return the document.

The purpose of this “needs” assessment is to assist the Department of Health and Family Services in further system development for emergency response and future grant application(s). The results will provide the focus for developing a plan that builds on the strengths of the current EMS and trauma systems and other existing resources. It may serve to justify funding for EMS services.

Each ambulance service provider and certified first responder unit has been asked to identify the Regional Trauma Advisory Council (RTAC) that they have joined. The RTACs are listed on the instruction sheet for the assessment. If you have not yet submitted your RTAC primary membership selection, please contact Marianne Peck, Trauma Care System Coordinator at the Division of Public Health, Bureau of EMS and Injury Prevention by e-mail (peckme@dhfs.state.wi.us), or phone (608-266-0601). You will need to provide the following information:

- a. name of the ambulance service provider
- b. mailing address of the ambulance service provider
- c. contact person for the ambulance service provider
- d. phone # of the ambulance service provider or contact person
- e. e-mail address of the ambulance service provider or contact person
- f. Regional Trauma Advisory Council (RTAC) selected as the primary RTAC by the ambulance service provider.

2004 LICENSE RENEWAL UPDATE

The Bureau of EMS and Injury Prevention will begin mailing renewal notices to first responders, emergency medical technicians and emergency medical services in February 2004. All individual EMT and ambulance service provider licenses expire on June 30, 2004, and must be renewed prior to that date in order to continue practicing and/or operating. Note that the expiration date on all first responder licenses was changed to June 30, 2004 so all licenses now expire on the same date.

Emergency Medical Services System (EMSS) is our web-based licensing system designed to allow services to maintain their service rosters and operational plans online. Beginning with the 2004 license renewals, EMSS will allow services to add, remove, update and renew the licenses of EMTs on their service rosters. If you have not registered for access to EMSS, go to the registration information at http://www.dhfs.state.wi.us/DPH_EMSIP/EMS/emss and follow the instructions for registration.

EMSS is designed so renewal requirements are built into the system and only EMTs who meet all of the renewal requirements will have their licenses renewed on line. It is extremely important that services keep all service and member EMT information in EMSS up-to-date, including CPR/ACLS expiration dates. To assist us in mailing renewal notices, ambulance



service directors should verify that the addresses for their EMTs are correct prior to February 2004.

EMTs who have their renewal applications processed online by their service directors using EMSS should receive their licenses within 3-5 business days after successful renewal. Service directors will get immediate verification of the status of their EMT renewals. If you are not planning to process your renewals online, you should anticipate 6-8 weeks for processing.

EMT licenses will be mailed directly to the EMT/first responder and may not be mailed to the service. It is each EMT's responsibility to provide a copy of the license to their service director(s).

As you work in EMSS, please send your comments to emssmail@dhfs.state.wi.us. We appreciate hearing from you.

LICENSE RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS

Listed below are the requirements for renewal of EMT licenses at the various licensing levels:

Certified First Responders-Defibrillation:

- CPR certification for the professional rescuer current as of the renewal submission (**note change** from previous text which stated current as of July 1, 2004), and
- Completion of an approved First Responder Refresher course or a First Responder course between April 01, 2002 and June 30, 2004.

EMT Basic:

- CPR certification for the professional rescuer current as of the renewal submission (**note change** from previous text which stated current as of July 1, 2004), and
- Completion of an EMT-Basic or EMT-Basic Refresher course between July 1, 2002 and June 30, 2004
- Completion of the EMT-Basic IV Tech course, or the didactic portion of the EMT-Intermediate or EMT-Paramedic course between July 1, 2002 and June 30, 2004 fulfills the refresher requirement for this level.

EMT Basic IV:

- CPR certification for the professional rescuer current as of the renewal submission (**note change** from previous text which stated current as of July 1, 2004), and
- Completion of an EMT-Basic Refresher course and 12 hours of medical director approved continuing education (at the EMT-IV-Tech level of training and scope of practice) , or
- Completion of the EMT-Basic IV Tech course, or the didactic portion of the EMT-Intermediate or EMT-Paramedic course between July 1, 2002 and June 30, 2004 fulfills the refresher requirement for this level.

Provisional EMT-Intermediate:

- CPR certification for the professional rescuer current as of the renewal submission (**note change** from previous text which stated current as of July 1, 2004), and



- Completion of an EMT-Basic Refresher course and 12 hours of medical director approved continuing education (at the EMT-IV-Tech level of training and scope of practice) , or
- Completion of the EMT-Basic IV Tech course, the didactic portion of the EMT-Intermediate or EMT-Paramedic course, or an EMT-Paramedic Refresher course between July 1, 2002 and June 30, 2004 fulfills the refresher requirement for this level.

EMT-Intermediate(99):

- CPR certification for the professional rescuer current as of the renewal submission (**note change** from previous text which stated current as of July 1, 2004), and
- Completion of ACLS training within the past 24 months, and
- Completion of: 1) a Department approved EMT-Paramedic Refresher course or 48 hours of medical director approved continuing education at the EMT-Intermediate level of training and scope of practice; 2) an EMT-Intermediate (99) course, or; 3) the didactic portion of the EMT-Paramedic course, between July 1, 2002 and June 30, 2004.

EMT-Paramedic:

- CPR certification for the professional rescuer current as of the renewal submission (**note change** from previous text which stated current as of July 1, 2004), and
- Completion of ACLS training within the past 24 months, and
- Completion of either a Department approved EMT-Paramedic Refresher course or 48 hours of medical director approved continuing education at the EMT-Paramedic level of training and scope of practice; or the didactic portion of the EMT-Paramedic course between July 1, 2002 and June 30, 2004.

Completion of a First Responder, EMT-Basic, EMT-Basic IV Tech, EMT-Intermediate or EMT-Paramedic course between July 1, 2002 and June 30, 2004 will meet the renewal requirement for the license level of the respective course and any lesser license level. Examples: Successful completion of an EMT-Basic course during the license period meets the EMT-Basic renewal requirements. Successful completion of an EMT-Paramedic course meets the EMT-Paramedic renewal requirements as well as the renewal requirements at all other license levels.

CPR for the Professional and Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) certification for license renewal must be current as of the renewal submission (**note change** from previous text which stated current as of July 1, 2004).

